

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|   |   |                                |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| In re Application of                      | ) |                                |
| Tomoharu TANAKA et al.                    | ) |                                |
| Serial No.: TBA; (Rule 53(b) Continuation | ) | Group Art Unit: 2824 (parent)  |
| Application of SN 10/315,030)             | ) | Examiner: Son T. Dinh (parent) |
| Filed: herewith                           | ) | Atty. Docket No.: 001701.00193 |
| For: SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY DEVICE          | ) |                                |

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-captioned Continuation application as follows:

**In The Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, replace paragraph 1 with the following paragraph:

--This application is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 10/315,030, filed December 10, 2002, which is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 10/024,189, filed December 21, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,344,996, which is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 09/768,588, filed January 25, 2001, which is a divisional of U.S. application Serial No. 09/504,903, filed February 16, 2000, which is now U.S. Pat. No. 6,208,573, and which is a divisional of U.S. application Serial No. 09/055,216, filed April 6, 1998, which is now U.S. Pat. No. 6,064,611.--